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(54) Title: ESTABLISHING AUTHENTICATED NETWORK CONNECTIONS

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for establishing authenticated network (e.g., TCP/IP) connections augments the network (e.g., TCP/IP) protocol and enables concealment of the presence of network (e.g., TCP/IP) servers on the network. One methodology uses one or more cryptographic techniques, and/or combinations of such techniques, to achieve the goal. A network (e.g., TCP/IP) connection establishment could be authenticated using both shared secret cryptographic and public key cryptographic methods. The trust between peers could be established either directly or via a trusted third party. One methodology allows network (e.g., TCP/IP) server concealment against Internet based eavesdroppers and eavesdroppers staging man-in-the-middle attacks on the local network or in the close proximity to the server. The techniques described herein may be used to protect a network (e.g., TCP/IP) server from establishing unsanctioned connections from both local and remote networks.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: H04L 5/00(2006.01),H04L 7/00,9/00(2006.01)

USPC: 709/200

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/200; 713/168

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WEST, IEEE, Internet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6202081 B1 (NAUDUS) 13 March 2001 (13.03.2001), column 6, lines 1-43	1-126
A,P	US 6,502,135 B1 (MUNGER et al.) 31 December 2002 (31.12.2002), column 7, lines 40-58	1-126
A,E	US 6618761 B1 (MUNGER et al.) 09 September 2003 (09.09.2003), column 2, lines 37-63	1-126



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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